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Complete Failure of U.S. Neo-Colonialism in South Viet Nam

by Professor L.V.H. (South Viet Nam)

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ABOUT THE STONE AGE...

PHAM HUY THONG
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Military Operations

in South Viet Nam

○ North West of Saigon

A U.S. Reinforced Battalion Wiped Out at Tra Cao: 500 GIs Put Out of Action.

○ At Tay Ninh Town

An Ammunition Dump Blown Up. Military and Administrative Quarters Destroyed.

100 Enemy Troops Killed or Wounded Including the Puppet Colonel, Head of the Province.

○ North West of Hue

A Battalion CP and 2 U.S. Para Companies Wiped Out.

○ On Highway No 9

120 GIs Put Out of Action, a Logistic Base Bombarded.

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in North Viet Nam

3 U.S. PLANES DOWNED IN 3 SUCCESSIVE DAYS

On April 17, a US pilotless reconnaissance plane was knocked down over Nam Ha province, south, south-east of Hanoi. The next day another U.S. plane hit by Hanoi A-1 defence forces was grounded in the vicinity of the capital city. The following day a third unmanned reconnaissance plane was downed over Haiphong.

These successes have brought the total of US air losses in North Viet Nam from August 5, 1964, date of the first US air raid against the DRVN, to April 19, 1969, to

3,279



An NFL liaison agent on the Mekong river

Richard Nixon at the Crossroads

PRESIDENT Nixon has mentioned a "peace" plan for Viet Nam, described as a "fair and reasonable" plan by William Rogers.

American newsmen affirm that it strikes a delicate balance between Laird's and Kissinger's respective views. They specify that Laird underlines the necessity of putting an end to U.S. military commitments in South Viet Nam and ensuring the withdrawal of American forces and their replacement by a re-equipped and re-inforced Thieu-Ky Army and an equally strengthened South Vietnamese administration. As for Kissinger, he favours the with-

drawal of U.S. forces only within the framework of a political settlement to be negotiated between the NFL and the Saigon regime.

It may be recalled that Nixon had suggested "private talks" as the only way to the solution of the Viet Nam problem, and that Nguyen Van Thieu had proposed "private talks" between Saigon and the NFL. As these proposals had produced no effect, Nguyen Van Thieu put forward his six-point plan: cessation of "North Viet Nam's aggression" against South Viet Nam; withdrawal of "North Vietnamese forces" in accordance with the Manila formula; dissolution of the

NFL; Viet Nam reunification to be achieved by both zones; efficient international control; and withdrawal of "North Vietnamese forces" from Laos and Cambodia. The least that can be said about all this boasting is that it is ambiguous, while Washington and, in its wake, Saigon are always showing the fundamental problem: as the United States has staged an aggression against Viet Nam and unleashed the war, it has first of all to cease this aggression. It is clear that peace cannot be restored so long as an American Expeditionary Corps remains on Vietnamese territory.

(Continued page 2)

PARIS CONFERENCE ON VIET NAM

HOLDS 13th PLENARY SESSION

At the 13th plenary session of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam (April 17, 1970), Mr. Tran Huu Kiem, head of the NFL delegation, again denounced the Nixon Administration's intensification of the Viet Nam War, especially its request for an additional 1.1 billion dollar appropriation for the Viet Nam war in 1970. He also exposed the perfidy of Nguyen Van Thieu's so-called "peace program" and his crack-down on the South Vietnamese people. Speaking of the popular movement in South Viet Nam cities, he said, "The setting up of a peace cabinet will be a step forward on the path to peace in South Viet Nam. As for the establishment of a leading democratic power as called for by the South Viet Nam situation, there should be formed a union national and democratic government — as has been advocated by the NFL, composed of representation people from all walks of life, all nationalities, religions, patriotic and democratic parties, patriotic personalities and forces, that will have been credited with contributions to national liberation."

The NFL envoy, indicated on the NFL 5 points as basis of a sensible solution of the South Viet Nam issue the key-point being the unconditional withdrawal from South Viet Nam of all US and satellite troops.

Speaking in his turn, Mr. Nuan Thuy, head of the delegation of the DRVN government, produced a factual evidence of the whole process of US intervention and aggression in Viet Nam for the last decades. He forcefully condemned the Nixon Administration's attempt to deceive public opinion with talks on "peace," "democratization" of the war, "reduction of intensity" of hostilities, etc., while actually stepping up military actions in South Viet Nam and violations of the sovereignty and threats to the security of the DRVN. Meanwhile the Paris Conference is making no headway as a result of US representatives' perversity in putting forth again and again proposals which have been rejected by the DRVN and NFL right from the beginning. US propaganda however has been trying to bring about "progress" of the Conference with a view to placating public opinion.

Mr. Nuan Thuy castigated the anti-communist talks of the Saigon puppet delegate by saying: "Formerly when the Vietnamese communists were fighting with a grim resolve together with the entire people for 9 years against

aggressive colonialists, those who are now leading the Saigon puppet administration served in the ranks of the enemy of the nation. Today, as the whole people are waging a resistance war against US aggression they hire themselves to the American imperialists as thugs to murder their own fellow-countrymen and they still have the front to boast of "nationalism" and "patriotism!"

Baring the true nature of US-puppet "peace" proposals, the DRVN chief negotiator pointed out that they were aimed at restoring peace not in independence and freedom, but in servile

Hanoi Press Opinion

U.S. Imperialists Continue Aggressive and Stubborn

NEVER before had the political stages in Washington and Saigon been so uproarious as during the past few weeks.

Nguyen Van Thieu, at a press conference on March 25, proposed so-called "private talks" with the NFL. Two hours later, Nixon declared in Washington: "Real progress could be made to end the Viet Nam war through private talks," alleging that "such out-of-conference discussions were going on," that "I could talk optimistically about bringing the boys home, but I won't."

In Paris, Lodge pretended on March 27 that "something is going to come out," while Pham Dong Lam parroted: "The Republic of Viet Nam will do everything to end the war." On April 1, Laird spoke before the House of "a tense-spending case" and

reducing the number of "hot sorties" in South Viet Nam. At a press conference on April 7, Rogers said: "We do have a plan which we think is a fair and reasonable one." Meanwhile, in Saigon Nguyen Van Thieu put forth his "six-point plan for the restoration of peace."

That is what the aggressors and the traitors have staged in their big farce, which is designed to sell the US desire of "de-escalation" and "respect for the Vietnamese people's right to self-determination."

The US has been ballyhooing its "peace plan." But the most important thing to bring about peace—which is for the US to stop its war of aggression in Vietnam—has never been mentioned by the US side all through the 12

Richard Nixon at the Crossroads

(Continued from page 1)

What is the main obstacle to peace if not the presence in South Viet Nam of these 500,000 GIs and mercenaries from U.S. satellites?

Why does Nixon obstinately refuse to help peace negotiations make headway?

Though the new U.S. administration has lost any hope of a total military victory, it still believes in the possibility of creating a position of strength which will make it possible to reach a settlement of the Viet Nam problem to its advantage. While intensify-

ing military activities in putting the Viet Nam, the Nixon administration is exerting all efforts to secure two priority goals: a moderate and strong puppet army and a consolidated puppet administration. Nixon wants to end the war from this position of strength, maintain U.S. presence in South Viet Nam, continue a neo-colonialist policy and perpetuate the partition of Viet Nam.

This plan however is as illusory as the dream of total victory of the former U.S. com-

mander-in-chief. Westward, B-52s are not a bit more efficient than formerly. NFL forces far from being weakened prove more active than ever, just close to and even inside big cities. The longer the White House persists in prolonging the war, the heavier US losses will be, and the more critical US predicament will become. U.S. and world opinion is getting impatient. Popular anger has already flared up in a series of cities from California to the East Coast and even in Congress. In nearly

all continents, disapproval is quasi-unanimous. Withdrawal of US and satellite troops from South Viet Nam alone will make feasible the restoration of peace, because it will guarantee Viet Nam's independence and sovereignty and the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination. It will also mean an end to the slaughter that is decimating American youth, a considerable reduction of financial difficulties and inflationary trends that threaten the dollar, and a certain recovery of U.S. prestige in the world.

Can there be any more "demonstrable" avowal for the United States?

North Viet Nam

B.52s Raid

Demilitarized Zone

On April 6, 3 formations of B-52s 6 times carpet-bombed Huong Loc village north of the DMZ.

On April 7, Phu Thuy village, Quang Binh province, was attacked by American planes while our results showed indiscriminately Vinh Son village, Vinh Link area.

On April 9, the area west of Ninh Hoa district, Quang Binh province, was also struck by American aircraft.

On April 11, Dai Trach village, Ho Trach district, Quang Binh province, was also air-raided.

The civilians suffered serious losses in lives and property.

U.S. daily violations of the sovereignty and threats to the security of the DRVN only show U.S. persistence in its war of aggression in Viet Nam and challenge world and American progressive opinion.

the continuation of its aggressive war (...)

It is well known that the aggressive acts of the US on the battlefield and its perversity in the press and world opinion have aroused deep indignation in American and world opinion. Tens of thousands of Americans recently took part in demonstrations in more than 40 major cities in the US to urge the Nixon administration to end its war in Viet Nam and bring home American troops. Divergence of Americans recently took part in demonstrations in more than 40 major cities in the US to urge the Nixon administration to end its war in Viet Nam and bring home American troops. Divergence of Americans recently took part in demonstrations in more than 40 major cities in the US to urge the Nixon administration to end its war in Viet Nam and bring home American troops.

The US aggressors' big farce precisely aims at appeasing world and American opinion (...)

Quang Dai Nhon Thon (People's Army) April 12, 1970

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VIET NAM COURIER

THE NORTH — GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH

ABOUT THE STONE AGE...

PHAM HUY THONG

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SOME time ago the American general (retired) Curtis LeMay talked about bombing us "back to the Stone Age." It was at the start of savage American air bombings of the DRVN.

No doubt, by that little terse formula, the general wanted to prove how knowledgeable he was in both military technique and archaeology.

There is no need to deal at length with American military technique and what it can do against the peoples' will for independence: either the general has understood that point himself, or Mr. Johnson must have given him all necessary explanations.

As to archaeology, I have no idea how much he knows. However, since he has suggested that he has some lights on that science, as an archaeologist I would like to talk to him about it, as I did some time ago, in the midst of American air raids on Hanoi, to his compatriots the writer Mary McCarthy and the historian Franz Schurkman, who showed great interest.

So let's talk about the Stone Age. Are we Vietnamese interested in it? Of course, we are. Not in the sense understood by Mr. LeMay, cannibal and sword-buckler. But one fact stands out: our regime and our entire people, not only specialists, take great interest in everything connected with the archaeology and the history of the country.

The Stone Age, national relics, traditional values, our old civilization: of course we feel great concern in all this. And there is no need for Mr. LeMay to take us "back" anywhere... At this time when we are once again victoriously repelling foreign aggression, we all share with Mr. Nuan Thuy, the poet, the acute feeling that the many thousand years of our history participate in our feats of arms.

However, although we have the reputation of being

a practical — and realistic — minded people, the conclusion should not be drawn from the fact that ancient values are being mobilized against the American aggressor, that our love of archaeology is inspired by some immediate utilitarianism. Just check the archives of the DRVN: you'll see that as early as November 23, 1945, shortly after the winning of power by the people, President Ho Chi Minh signed a decree, bearing the number 65, which established the rules for our then institute of archaeology. And one of the very first decisions taken by our government after its return to Hanoi following Dien Bien Phu and the Geneva Agreements was the immediate restoration of the One-Pillar Pagoda, that pearl of our art, almost a thousand years old, which enemy soldiers had blown up before evacuating our capital. All this shows how seriously our leaders take history and the theses of historical materialism, and how anxious they are to respond to popular wishes: from times immemorial, our people have always loved things of the past.

However, the course of events has been such that only for ten years or so have we been able to devote serious attention to archaeology as a scientific work. Until then we had deeply felt the humiliation inflicted on us by colonialism, which had kept us away from the study of our own past and had denied, falsified and discredited that past in all kinds of manners, under pretext of scientific criticism, historicism, or, on the contrary, of integral resurrection.

Young Vietnamese archaeology, thus enthusiastically

practised with the encouragement of the authorities and the warm support of the people, had already recorded many a worthy result and finding.

One of the most outstanding discoveries made in the last few years is precisely about the Stone Age. European science has estimated that man lived on our soil at least ten thousand years ago: the so-called Hoa Binh culture of limestone caves dated back to the beginning of the Neolithic period; perhaps one might even speak of an original Mesolithic period, without the microliths which characterize the European Mesolithic. But at Mount Do, very close to the Ham Long bridge, for whose destruction the USA's vainly sacrificed 90 superatomic jets, a rich Paleolithic station appeared to our amazed eyes. Soon after, making investigations in the Quaternary, we found, in various provinces of North Vietnam's mountainous midlands, fossil remains which suggest a very ancient humanization. We have thus carried much further back in the past than was generally thought possible knowledge of human life and industry on our territory. Better still, the hand-axe, typical of the western Paleolithic, being clearly present among wrought pebbles, a serious blow has been dealt at the thesis put forward by some American archaeologists. Halfheartedly, Mr. LeMay in particular, who make a distinction between the splintered stone civilisation of the white peoples and "the pebble culture" of the others.

Another remarkable result of the work and efforts of Vietnamese archaeology was the discovery, on more than a hundred kilometres on both banks of the Red River, of a whole series of prehistoric

sites in knolls, dating back to the dawn of the Bronze Age or the end of the New Stone Age, presenting striking continuity over a period of several centuries, perhaps even several dozen centuries, and linked around the Christian era, and further south with the well-known Dong Son civilisation. The whole study of Vietnamese proto-history, thereupon, has been renewed: one will no longer discuss whether the Hung kings, the country's founders and ancestors, belonged to the realm of myth or to what is generally accepted as historical tradition. Knowledge of the origins of our nation will provide a clearer view of our history, a deeper insight into our society and human resources, and will ultimately contribute to a more accurate perception of the whole Vietnamese reality. One will therefore no longer be surprised to learn that in the past years, we have never ceased carrying out searches and excavations and mobilizing all our forces for this quest into the past, even amidst the fiercest American air raids.

The record of our efforts and successes does not end here. Uncovering of kjoeken-middings along the coast of the Fourth Zone, relation

aggressors and in out-of-the-way places. In Quang Binh province, a first-hand work done in the four years of anti-US resistance and discusses the links in 1950. It has reviewed its achievements and decided that on the basis of a step-by-step cultural and artistic mass movement, it is necessary to raise the standards of professional cultural and artistic activities, to preserve and develop the national cultural legacy and at the same time to pick and chose from the world's cultural wealth to improve the training and fostering of cadres; to increase the supply of necessary means and to actively pave the way for the setting up of material and technical foundations.

Premier Pham Van Dong has addressed the conference.

In the last two months of 1968, throughout the Viet Nam Theatre travelled 5,000 km. part of which by foot and staged plays in various parts of the country, even in the localities hard hit by the US.



A sight of archaeological excavation at Dong Dan (Vinh Phu province)

VIET NAM COURIER

Complete Failure of U.S. Neo-Colonialism in South Viet Nam

by Professor L.V.H. (in South Viet Nam)

FOR nearly twenty years the United States has been interfering in the internal affairs of Viet Nam, and since mid-1954 more than half a million troops of the U.S. and mercenaries from U.S. satellites have been invading South Viet Nam and inflicting on Vietnamese towns and countryside the agonies of a most atrocious war.

On the South Viet Nam cities in particular, the U.S. imperialists have been exerting the biggest efforts to impose its neo-colonialism—in a very high degree and in the most subtle but also very brutal manner and by every conceivable method: bribery, deception, terror, destruction—in an attempt to turn these areas into firm strongholds of theirs.

But so far, all their attempts and manoeuvres have only borne this bitter fruit: **an implacable hatred of the overwhelming majority of the South Vietnamese in country and town alike, a hatred engendered by diffusion, U.S. unprecedented brutality, devastation and killing, disregard for Vietnamese lives and cynical contempt of the Vietnamese nation.** One is entitled to ask what right the Americans have arrogated themselves to fly everyday huge bombers and shower bombs on every part of this land which is not theirs, including areas on the fringes of Saigon. U.S. and Saigon radios daily boast of having killed scores and hundreds of "Vietcong". But who are these "Vietcong"? Ask the men in the street. An immense grief and intense hatred grip their hearts, as they see tens and hundreds of bloody peasants, old and young, mostly women and children, brought to hospital in the towns in a dying state.

The crimes of the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen are piling everyday under the noses of ordinary people in South Viet Nam cities. People swear at the criminals and pray for their destruction. This is the passive and almost powerless reaction of those who have not an ounce of sense left. But not only that. People fight the GIs in the streets, and rise up and hit back at the police and punish the cruel agents of the U.S. puppets. A number of newspapers courageously accuse the U.S. and its lackeys of stubbornness, belated peace sabotage and scorn for the Vietnamese national sovereignty. Most remarkable have been a series of popular actions, in one form or another, with a clear anti-U.S. character and increasing militancy. But a closer look into, and a more penetrating analysis of, U.S. neo-colonialism as practised in Viet Nam is necessary to see why it has generated such profound and widespread hatred of the people for those who are scheming to tear the fabric of the material and spiritual life of a whole nation, and to better understand why it has yielded a result quite contrary to the wishes of its promoters and brought about their end and out setback.

Let us consider neo-colonialism from its most brutal form—direct aggression and war of extermination—

to its most insidious and subtle forms which are economic, social, cultural and other tricks.

1. IMPROVEMENT OF THE POPULATION AND CORRUPTION OF SOCIETY BY ECONOMIC MEANS.

Where has U.S. aid taken South Viet Nam economy?

LIKE traditional colonialism, neo-colonialism is in essence a form of colonial domination by violence, and by aggression if necessary. But more sophisticated and cunning than its predecessor, it does not undertake direct colonization through the agency of a ruling apparatus brought from the metropolitan country. Its main purpose is to control the victim country economically, and politically, cause chaos and widespread corruption in society, poison the minds of the people and pervert the national achievement, subjugation, domination and exploitation.

First of all, through a series of economic measures, neo-colonialism plots to impoverish the South Vietnamese masses in the towns and cities. The main leverage to further this scheme is economic "aid" to South Viet Nam to turn its economy into a consumer, non-productive one and aggravate its exhaustion and stagnation.

A Saigon newspaper rightly remarked recently:

"U.S. aid is only a device to find an outlet for American surplus goods. Over the past fifteen years, the Vietnamese people have been living on U.S. aid and depending solely on it. In the last two years the Americans have also set up storehouses in South Viet Nam and flooded the market with their goods, thereby turning South Viet Nam into a fair for U.S. products, American merchandise (shirts, shoes, and knit-trades) packs. Domestic production continues its downward march and two years ago rice suddenly disappeared from the market and we had to eat Thailand, American and Taiwan rice, all through the channel of American aid. It is indeed an economic tragedy to depend on foreign countries for even a bowl of rice and soup" (Cong Luu, August 12, 1966).

By means of "aid", the U.S. has been importing millions of tons of goods for daily consumption, mainly of luxury articles. There is hardly any means of production. This is intended to strike at the production capacity of the local economy which has been recording a market fall every year in all spheres, agriculture, industry and handicrafts. Rice has become more and more scarce, rubber exports have been decreasing. The textile, sugar, and paper industries are in a worsening slump before the influx of American goods.

Understandably, once the production capacity—the main motive force of economic life—is going downhill,

complete chaos grips in all other economic and financial operations. To top this all, the large introduction of American dollars into South Viet Nam and the massive spending by over half a million GIs and troops of U.S. satellites have generated an undue excess of paper money popularly dubbed "galloping inflation". The South Viet Nam piastre has depreciated to such an extent that the Saigon "National Bank" has had to issue every month tens of billions of piastres without being able to meet the expenditures, and the budget of the Thieu-Ky-Huung junta has been experiencing an average annual deficit of around a dozen billion (it is estimated at 30 billion for the 1968-69 fiscal year).

For many years now, inflation has been the main plague of the masses' economic life, and at the same time a political danger threatening the very existence of the puppet regime. As an American paper has put it, perhaps the most stubborn enemy in South Viet Nam today is a desperate struggle for survival every day against poverty and disease.

Inflation has sent prices skyrocketing and the cost of living spiralling. Since mid-1962, the prices of such necessities as rice, the people's life such as rice, salt, fish, pepper, charcoal, firewood, kerosene, fish, meat, vegetables, etc., have increased two, three and even five or six times in some cases.

Inflation begotten by the war of aggression and the presence of the U.S. expeditionary corps has given rise to rampant hoarding speculation, smuggling and blackmarket of which the main victims are always the broad masses of the people. There are two prices, official and blackmarket, for everything, from rice, milk and medicines to the dollar and the franc. American-aid goods gorge the black-market channels. Millions of dollars have been remitted abroad. Smuggled gold, opium, jewels and many other items feed a roaring trade.

Social views bred by the U.S. schemes and plots spread quickly and widely in varied forms, offering sights that grieve the sociologists and anger every patriotic Vietnamese and all those who are still left with some shred of conscience and humanitarian feelings.

Many foreign writers and journalists have seen, and borne witness most forcefully to this harsh reality. Among others we can cite Mary McCarthy (author of "Viet Nam in the United States" in 1967) and J. Berthoin (author of "Hoody Viet Nam" published in France in 1968). But they have only given a partial picture of the great tragedy of South Viet Nam cities.

First and foremost, there is widespread and very serious unemployment of which the Saigon puppet regime has given not the slightest figure, not even estimates. It dares

not, and in fact is not able to, conduct serious population censuses or social investigations for the simple reason that these would be severe indictments of its ugly nature.

The South Viet Nam towns and cities are teeming with soldiers. At night they are illuminated by a myriad of lights from the tea-rooms, bars, dancing halls and nightclubs, but in the day-time they are filled with noise, dust and a multitude of garbage dumps, heaps of empty bottles, rusty tin and barbed wire entanglements. They are typical samples of cities under foreign aggression and occupation. 'Saigon, a city of renowned beauty, has now become a city of horror, a city of war. This is a really cruel thing. The formerly quiet, tree-lined and clean boulevards are filled with garbage, empty bottles and sand-bagged watch posts where U.S. sentinels stand scanning the face of every passerby' (AP, August 7, 1966).

Saigon, as seen by a foreign correspondent.

Beside the fashionable streets and the luxurious residential quarters with private mansions and villas, there is another world in South Viet Nam cities, that of the poor and unfortunate living under a brutal rule and in the world of the army of beggars, cripples and people of all ages, the world of the poor working people whose abodes are invariably called "rat holes" consisting of squalid huts made of

card board and covered with newspapers huddling together on swampy marshes, beside mountains of refuse, dirty ponds or stagnant canals. Mud and stench are permanent features of these hellish places, rain or shine. That is the world of Xom Chieu, Com Ma, Ban Co, Khanh Hoi, the outskirts of Cho Lon and Da Nang.

In these extensive camps of misery, millions of men and women are fighting a desperate struggle for survival every day against poverty and disease.

Standing out in this sink of iniquity is prostitution and the attendant sale of organs of the body. The attendant prostitution and sale of organs of the body and exploiting Americans whom the townspeople here contemptuously call "the Americans" is a derivation of "M", the Vietnamese for the U.S. or Americans—Ed. Senator W. Fulbright once commented that the U.S. had transferred Saigon into a huge brothel. French journalist Berthoin called Saigon the brothel of Asia.

Prostitution flourishes wherever American and satellite troops are stationed. Snack-bars and nightclubs are mushrooming. The monthly wage of an average public employee only represents two or three days' income for a barmaid in a snack-bar or a night's earning of an experienced whore, who as the press puts it, knows how to do a widespread trade in the "sex battlefield".

Nguyen Can Ky himself, when premier of the puppet administration, claimed credit for having concentrated street walkers in given places allegedly to "facilitate government control" over this trade. But the talk in Saigon had it that Nguyen Can Ky and his partners in fact were planning to monopolize, and make money out of, this infamous profession. His minister of Social Welfare once conceded that prostitution had reached such proportion that it had become one of the best organized trades in South Viet Nam.

Along with the brothels and snack-bars there has appeared and developed the industry of "marrying Americans" and exploiting Americans. This trade has been thriving in South Viet Nam and has now engendered a whole army of panders, chief procurers, brothel managers, landlords and also its own army of "cultural workers" and "legal advisers". Crash English courses have been opened and many hack

writers have hastily compiled word-books and conversation books and "loving-making" glossaries intended for prostitutes in their dealings with the GIs. There are also "lawyers" who earn a good living helping draw "Vietnamese-American" marriages. Any such marriage is in reality the buying of a Vietnamese woman by an American who will hand her over to another American before returning to the United States on expiration of his term. There have been thousands of such American-style "romances".

Another social vice no less serious is vagrancy, hoodlomanism and gangsterism, including juvenile delinquency. Hoodlomanism has made prodigious headway since 1965. The streets are infested with professional pickpockets or smugglers and black-marketiers recognizable by their tumbled hair, their extravagant clothes and nauseating stench. Many ride on motorcycles and engage in close-range behaviour toward school-girls and women or seek a fight with passers-by. Vagrancy which was once confined chiefly to Saigon and Da Nang has now spread to Hue and Quang Tri.

The natural bedfellows of prostitution and vagrancy are gambling, drinking, opium-smoking and use of heroin and other narcotics. Gambling houses, big and small, are operating almost openly in many cases they are run by wives of puppet generals with as partners American or satellite officers or international gamblers. The regular smuggling of opium is a huge source of income to air pilots, puppet diplomats travelling to Laos, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore... To impair the health of the Vietnamese people, the U.S. has also imported a great quantity of spirits and roguets and many kinds of drugs for widespread consumption among the pleasure-seeking world. For several years now the Saigon press has been full of stories of depravation and delinquency, in particular among the youth in the cities. "There are not a few teenagers, children of wealthy families who, though still depending on their parents for their pocket money, have taken to opium-smoking or haunting dancing bars. Some school boys on girls in their teens have even taken morphine shots. That is really frightful. (Chinh Luu, August 7, 1966).

In a word, the present economy of South Viet Nam cities with its ever dwindling production capacity, with the indiscriminate import of American goods with its gillopping inflation coupled with soaring prices and increasing cost of living and widespread hoarding, speculation and blackmarket practised almost openly with the puppet administration's connivance and participation; is the inevitable outcome of the American "aid policy". It is part of the basic scheme of U.S. neo-colonialism to impoverish the masses and pervert the social class and widespread corruption. However, cruel and perfidious as they are, all these efforts have proved futile and produced only an opposite effect on the broad masses of the South Vietnamese population. This has been evidenced by the sustained offensives beginning in Spring 1968 followed by the current Spring 1969 attacks of the Liberation Front Forces which in fact were a response from the townspeople who have been staging powerful uprisings across South Viet Nam. All this is heralding the inevitable complete and ignominious failure of U.S. imperialism, chieftain of the Thieu-Ky Thieu, right in the cities of South Viet Nam.

See in our next issue: II — U.S. neo-colonialist mind-perverting cultural tricks and manoeuvres in South Viet Nam.

South Viet Nam

Details on the Thai Hiep Massacre of North Viet Nam Catholic Evacuees

IN 1954, the U.S. and quislings in South Viet Nam, helped in their machievellian undertaking by the Catholic reactionaries enticed hundreds of thousands of North Viet Nam Catholics into evacuating to the South. Thai Hiep is one of these villages of "Catholic refugees" lying in the Ho Nai area, Bien Hoa province, near National Road No. 1, between the Bien Hoa airbase and the Long Binh logistic complex. The enemy penned up nearly 3,000 Catholics in the Ho Nai area. Expecting that, as Catholics, these people were utterly "anti-communist", and on the other hand firmly believing in the effect of his coercive measures in a village located deep in the zone under his control, he listed that village and the neighbouring hamlets in "B-1" class or relatively safe ones.

Nevertheless, the Catholics victims of exploitation, oppression and war have seen through the nature of the

American aggressors and traitors to the country. Thai Hiep people many times demonstrated for their return to the North, for the freedom to earn their living, against press-gang, repression and terror... Because of this, they were looked on by the enemy as dubious elements.

The PLAF attacks in early spring year in Bien Hoa province, chiefly the staggering blows dealt at the Bien Hoa airbase, the HQ of U.S. ground force at Long Binh, the U.S. field Command No. 2, increased the mistrust of the enemy of these Catholic evacuees.

In the small hours of February 26, 1969, American planes took turns in striking with bombs, shells, rockets and toxic chemicals at Thai Hiep and such localities nearby as Dong Lach, Ho Nai, Lo Than, the Pungpung's Gia Binh camp exacting a toll of over 200 lives and 1,000 dwelling houses. At Thai Hiep village, not a single house out of 300 was left standing

and over 100 people killed. In the same way, nearly 200 dwelling houses in Dong Lach area (Ho Nai region) and 200 others in the Pungpung's Gia Binh camp near the Lungtong asylum were set afire. Enemy shelling also devastated 11 Catholic houses at Ho Nai hamlet and 34 others, 2 churches, 1 school, a high street in Lo Than area, causing ten casualties including 30 members of puppet soldiers' families.

The massacres of Thai Hiep village Catholics, of 1,000 people at Ba Lang An, Quang Ngai province, on March 10, 1969, and of 30 people of the Sebang nationality at Krong Horing, Kontum province, on March 10, 1969, were typical of the crimes committed by GIs and puppet troops since Nixon's coming to power. They gave the lie to his "peaceful intent, honesty and bared the true nature of the "accelerated pacification" program of the U.S. and quislings.

New Sprayings of Toxic Chemicals in Tay Ninh Province

GAI Phong Press Agency reported that in March last, American planes had repeatedly dropped small bags and 1000-pound cases of chemical products on Tu Pang village, about district of Tay Ninh province, about one hundred miles from Saigon.

Also in March, in Ban Can district, same province, American aircraft and artillery bombarded Long Giang village, destroying about thirty houses.

OTHER CRIMES OF THE U.S. AND QUISLINGS

ON the afternoon of March 25, the U.S. and quislings set on fire 92 textile shops and bazaars in Rach Gia town. The fire was raging for hours, consuming civilian property totalling one billion piastres without the fire-engines stationed nearby moving into action to help.

On March 10, in An Giang province, the enemy "mopped up" Hoa Binh populated hamlet, Hoa Lai commune, Chau Pha district, killing 17 Hoa Binh believers and wounding 37 others. Long Khanh pagoda and about 15 dwelling houses of the Hoa Binh in Khanh Hoa village were also destroyed by fire the same day. Domestic animals and other property of the inhabitants were of course pilfered by enemy soldiers.

In My Thua province, in order to widen their base at Binh Dinh, the Americans, from the night of March 10 to March 23, burned down Long Hoa 11 hamlet. Their bulldozers completed the job by flattening everything including the cemetery of the hamlet.

U.S. crimes in Thua Thien province (South Viet Nam)

"END THE WAR OF AGGRESSION IN VIETNAM"

9th CONFERENCE OF WORLD FEDERATION OF SCIENTIFIC WORKERS

THE recent 9th Conference of the World Federation of Scientific Workers has in its resolution condemned U.S. stepping up its war in South Viet Nam and blocking the progress of the current Paris Conference on Viet Nam.

The conference called on the progressive scientists in the world to increase support for the just struggle of the Vietnamese people and to militate for the U.S. unconditional withdrawal of all its troops and troops of its satellites from South Viet Nam and leaving the people there to settle their own affairs without foreign interference.

In his opening speech, Professor C. P. Powell, President of the Federation, hailed the tremendous successes won by the Vietnamese people in their fight against U.S. aggression.

The conference elected Le Khar, President of the Viet Nam Association for the Dissemination of Science and Technology, member of the new Executive Committee of the WFSW.

SWEDEN

ON April 14, thousands of people demonstrated in many cities against the U.S. aggressive war in Viet Nam, concluding the "Viet Nam Week" organized by the Swedish Committee for Viet Nam.

In Stockholm, 3,000 people took to the streets to urge that the Swedish government break off all relations with the Saigon puppet administration and recognize the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation.

They also called on their government to take measures against Swedish firms supplying the U.S. war aggression in Viet Nam, and asked for guarantees for anti-fascist American youths to be granted political asylum in Sweden.

FINLAND

THE 15th Congress of the Finnish Communist Party held in Helsinki from April 2 to 6, passed on April 6 a resolution on Viet Nam which said:

"The U.S. must withdraw from South Viet Nam its troops and those of its satellites and let the Vietnamese

people settle their own affairs in full freedom and independence.

"The Finnish Communist Party urges that the Finnish government establishes diplomatic relations with the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and contacts with the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, the genuine representative of the South Viet Nam people."

At the opening session, A. Saarinen, President of the Finnish Communist Party, said that the valiant struggle of the Vietnamese people which enjoyed the support of the socialist camp and peace-loving people of the world, demonstrated that however formidable its war machine might be, U.S. imperialism would not be able to defeat a people resolute to fight for freedom nor to get the better of a socialist regime.

GREAT BRITAIN

ON feet and in buses, tens of thousands of people from various parts of England, Scotland and Wales converged on April 7 on Trafalgar Square for a mass march against the U.S. war in Viet Nam.

Chanting "Ho Chi Minh!" and "Victory to the NLF!" and carrying aloft slogans "U.S. get out of Viet Nam!", the demonstrators then rallied at Trafalgar Square.

The speakers, who included representatives of the Movement Against the U.S. War in Viet Nam, the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, the Transportation Union, the Steel Workers' Union, British Christians, condemned the U.S. genocidal war in South Viet Nam, and voiced full support for the Vietnamese people's just fight and legitimate demand for the unconditional withdrawal of all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam.

NEW ZEALAND

ACCORDING to reports from Wellington mass demonstrations have taken place successfully in Auckland and Christchurch, New Zealand, in protest against the U.S. imperialism aggression in Viet Nam.

The setting up of U.S. military installations in New Zealand. A group of 100 people in Auckland, carrying banners with inscriptions denouncing the U.S. aggression in Viet Nam demonstrated on April 7 in front of the offices of the Pan-American

World Airways, an enterprise of U.S. monopoly capital. The demonstrators later marched to the New Zealand Army Headquarters to protest the New Zealand government's participation in the U.S. war of aggression in Viet Nam.

On April 6, more than 200 students and workers staged a protest march in front of the office of the U.S. Consul in Christchurch. They demanded among other things withdrawal of New Zealand troops from Viet Nam.

AUSTRALIA

In response to a call of the students of the Sydney University, about 1,500 university and high school students in Sydney demonstrated on April 11 in the city's central square for the cessation of the U.S. aggressive war in Viet Nam.

AP described the protest as "one of the most violent demonstrations ever seen in the city."

It took place under the watchword: "All back Australian troops from Viet Nam." "Stop immediately the war!" "We will not serve in the Australian army!"

The demonstrators tried to break into an office of the Australian government to hand in a protest petition.

CANADA

In co-ordination with the current campaign in the U.S. against the war in Viet Nam, thousands of Canadians on April 6 took to the streets for the cessation of the U.S. aggressive war in Viet Nam and an end to U.S. complicity in this dirty war.

In Ottawa, Vancouver, Montreal and Toronto, many mass demonstrations took place under the slogan: "U.S. Government, Stop Viet Nam War!" and "Withdraw unconditionally all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam!"

Speaking at a 6,000-strong meeting in Toronto, Feinberg, a noted Canadian public figure, said:

"While at the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, the U.S. is constantly advertising its desire (for peace in Viet Nam) and de-escalation (of the war) in the far-off South Viet Nam, its expeditionary army continued massacres with increasing barbarity."

"The United States Must Halt Immediately and Unconditionally the Bombing and Strafing of Laotian Territory"

(DRVN Foreign Ministry's April 15, 1969 statement)

ON April 7, 1969, the Central Committee of the Laotian Patriotic Front (Neo Lao Haksat) issued a statement forcefully denouncing and condemning the US imperialists' intensification of their aggressive war in Laos.

It is public knowledge that in the recent period, while stepping up its aggressive war in South Viet Nam, the U.S. has been increasing savage bombings and strafings of Laotian territory and using South Viet Nam - based U.S. marine units in operations in Laos.

To cover up their war intensification and mislead public opinion, the U.S. and the reactionary Vietnamese administration have fabricated the "presence of North Viet Nam troops in Laos" story and openly slandered the DRVN and the Laotian Patriotic Front. On U.S. Orders, the Vietnamese administration has for nearly 3 months been mounting repeated provocations against, and illegally encircling, the Representation of the Laotian Patriotic Front in Vientiane, thus causing further tension in the Laotian situation.

The above acts of the U.S. and the Vietnamese administration are very cynical violations of the 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos and the DRVN's Government firmly insists that the U.S. and the Vietnamese authorities strictly implement the 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos.

The U.S. must respect the sovereignty, independence and neutrality of Laos, and end its interference and aggression in Laos. First of all, it must halt immediately and unconditionally the bombing and strafing of the Laotian situation so that the U.S. and the Vietnamese authorities by themselves.

As a signatory to the 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos, the DRVN's Government firmly insists that the U.S. and the Vietnamese authorities strictly implement the 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos.

American Servicemen and Students Oppose U.S. War in Viet Nam

AMERICAN servicemen in Fort Jackson, South Carolina, have of late stepped up their multimonth protest against the U.S. war in Viet Nam.

Members of the "Soldiers United Against the War in Viet Nam" distributed among the GIs leaflets protesting against the U.S. authorities for drafting American youths for the "illegal, immoral and unjust war" in Viet Nam.

At a press conference on April 11 in New York, Joe Meier, a member of the Black American, founder of the organization, pointed out that the anti-war movement spelled out not only the American soldiers' distrust of the U.S. authorities' war policy in Viet Nam but also the extent of gravity of the divergences between the American servicemen and their commanders.

Two students of 150 colleges in the United States held a conference in New York endorsed resolution urging the U.S. government to stop its war in Viet Nam and withdraw immediately all U.S. troops from South Viet Nam.

News from LAOS

1,000 Enemy Troops Put Out of Action in Sam Neua and Xieng Khoang

THE patriotic armed forces in Sam Neua province last month recaptured nearly all the areas nibbled off by the enemy earlier and put out of action 731 rightist troops, said initial KPL reports.

In their actions, the patriots killed or captured a colonel and several battalion and company commanders of the rightist army, seized 225 weapons and 13 radio transmitters and shot down 4 U.S. aircraft with infantry guns.

Of the enemy setbacks,

the loss of Nakhang and the nearby areas of Hin Xa and Muang Hien was the heaviest since the fall of Nam Bac area in January last year.

As a result, the U.S. and its henchmen in Laos are now faced with the question of overhauling the whole system of their "special forces" in the province.

Also last month, the patriots in Xieng Khoang province knocked down 9 U.S. aircraft and put out of action 209 enemy troops, KPL further said.

News from CAMBODIA

Cambodian Government Flays Helilifting of U.S.-Puppet Spies into Cambodian Territory

THE Cambodian Government made public on April 15 a statement strongly denouncing the U.S. imperialists recent sending by helicopter of U.S.-puppet commands and spies into Cambodian territory for sabotage attacks.

In the statement, the Cambodian government directed public attention to the gravity of the situation in South east Asia and the deliberateness of such U.S. intrusions into Cambodian territory. It referred to an

article published a few days earlier in the U.S. "Daily News" as a new proof of this premeditation. The author of the article, the statement said, announced that under pretext of "observing the movement and supply of Communist troops" the U.S. had smuggled in helicopter units.

The statement pointed out that such acts violated the fundamental rights of Cambodia, a sovereign country, and the UNO Charter to which the U.S. is a signatory.

ON April 15, 1969, a US big spy plane of the EC-121 type, with up-to-date equipment, having 31 Americans on board, violated the air space of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the KCNA reported. At 1:50 p.m., an aircraft of the Korean People's Air Force tumbled with a single shot the intruding plane which was flying at very high altitude.

The fact that an American plane indulged in spying activities over North Korea after the humiliating rebuff of the U.S. in the *Phedon* affair, shows that the U.S. imperialists have not drawn any lesson of experience for themselves and always pursue an aggressive and bellicose policy against the DPRK and other socialist countries, thereby jeopardizing the peace in the Far East and the world.

Once again, the American imperialists were given a rap on the knuckles by the

Incident of the U.S. EC 121 Spy Plane Downed by the KPAP

DUE PUNISHMENT TO THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS

Korean People's Army. This resounding exploit testifies to the North Korean people's army forces' undiminished vigilance and readiness to defend the security of their country against the dark designs of the American imperialists. It also shows the growing strength of the North Korean Armed Forces.

The Vietnamese people warmly welcome the new feat-of-arms of the heroic Korean People's Army. They staunchly support the struggle

against the aggressive schemes and provocations of the American imperialists and their lackeys. This achievement of our Korean brothers gives a strong fillip to our people in their resistance for national salvation. We energetically condemn the impudent threats of the U.S. imperialists against the DPRK and insist that they put an end to their espionage activities and war provocations in North Korea.



Regional troops of Kien Tuong province cross the river to pursue the enemy.

South Viet Nam Liberated Areas UNDER REVOLUTIONARY POWER

UNDER the revolutionary power, the face of the liberated areas in South Viet Nam has quickly been changing in every respect.

To protect the liberated areas, the inhabitants of Ben Tre province erected from March 5 to 12 nearly 17,000 metres of combat barrier, dug over 3,000 metres of trenches and set up a 60-metre defence line. New guerrilla units were trained who punished 40 wicked thugs.

The *Tieng Noi Dan Toc* (Voice of the Nation) wrote unhesitatingly that Thieu's new initiative in connection with the merging of political parties will at the most lead to a regrouping of old forces too well known by their presence in all successive "governments" in South Viet Nam, from French colonial days up to now, in passing through Ngo Dinh Diem's reign. It will produce "a gathering of nans of parties behind which there is no popular support".

In Kien Phong, farmers of the villages of Phong Thinh, My Xing, Phong My, Binh Hang Tring, etc., have built water-conservation dikes and tilled hundreds of hectares of land.

In Rach Gia, an agricultural

ral hydraulic network 30 km long was set up in two districts of Vinh Thuan and An Bien and has begun to irrigate ricefields.

With regard to public health, the medical service of the *Ho Chi Minh* province has attended to hundreds of thousands of people, those affected by enemy gas bombs and chemical products. It has successfully treated hundreds of patients and given inoculation to nearly 3,000 people. Besides, it has trained 120 nurses, chemists and medical aids and prepared oral or injectable medicines from local pharmaceutical products. The medical network developed in all villages and each district has a doctor or an assistant physician.

In Ben Tre, the Mo Cay district has trained and fostered the medical workers. More than 2,000 patients have been given attention in district sanitary posts.

ON THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

NEW PLAF VICTORY AT TRA CAO

A U.S. REINFORCED BATTALION WIPED OUT, 500 GIs PUT OUT OF ACTION

About 30 Targets Daily Bombarded
by Patriotic Forces

Two fresh successes are reported by *Giai Phong* Press Agency to have been won by the PLAF on April 15 at **Tra Cao** on February 23 and 25 (Viet Nam Courier No 207). In a raid on a camp set up by the GIs of Brigade 2, U.S. Infantry Division *Tropic Lightning* near the Cambodian frontier, 35 km northwest of Saigon, in the small hours of April 15, the PLAF destroyed 15 blockhouses, 4 105mm cannons and 5 90 mm cannons, 9 160.7 mm mortars, 10 12.7 mm machine-guns, 15 M-41 tanks and M-113 amphibious cars, downed a chopper, burnt 30 tonnes, seized a great quantity of weapons and military equipment and knocked out 500 GIs. A reinforced battalion and its CP were wiped out. It is to be recalled that the Yankees had taken 950 casualties in two previous PLAF attacks on Tra Cao.

On April 8, at Bau Ho, 17 km southwest of Tay Ninh, a company was put out of action when an enemy battalion was ambushed.

Many other successes have been won by the patriots in the northern provinces of South Viet Nam, *Giai Phong* Press Agency reported.

On Highway No 9 parallel to the DMZ, 120 GIs were put out of action in two PLAF assaults on April 7, one near **Con Tien** and the other near **Tan Lam**, and in the shelling of **Sa Muu** logistic base where two petrol tanks, 20 bales of goods and 7 heavily-loaded lorries were destroyed by fire Northwest of Hue. On March 27, a U.S. para position at **Nghang** came under a heavy PLAF onset. A battalion CP and two enemy companies were wiped out: 300 men killed or wounded, 8 cannons wrecked and 3 ammunition dumps and fuel tanks burnt. South of Phu Bai base, 122 enemy troops were put out of action in the shelling of **La Son** position the same day.

On the Cloud mountain pass, northwest of Da Nang, a motorized convoy and an enemy post were engaged in fighting on April 1 and lost 10 military lorries. About 40 km south of Quang Ngai,

on March 29 the PLAF intercepted 3 enemy columns including an American battalion heading for **Pho An**: they put out of action over 180 enemy troops, downed 2 aircraft and destroyed 3 armoured cars; 2 American platoons were wiped out.

Last week, PLAF artillery was most active and efficient. About 30 targets were hit daily, Western sources reported.

The most striking blow was no doubt the shelling of the military sector CP and administrative offices at **Tay Ninh**, on the night of April 10, as reported in our last issue. An ammunition dump, containing among other things 14,000 big shells, was blown up, and the munitions continued to explode 48 hours later. A whole town quarter reserved for military and administrative organs was erased. Hundreds of enemy

troops were killed or wounded including the puppet colonel head of the province. A gun emplacement was flattened.

The same night, the PLAF also bombed the towns of **My Tho**, **Tra Vinh**, **Sa Dec** and **Vi Thanh**. At **My Tho**, 60 km southwest of Saigon, the HQ of puppet Infantry Division 7, the military sector CP, the military training centre and naval base, were pounded. At **Tra Vinh**, 100 Km south southwest of Saigon, 3 petrol dumps were set afire.

The 200 targets hit by the PLAF between April 11 and 17 included **Phan Rang** airfield (April 13), the HQ of "First Gov." at **Phuoc Vinh** (April 14), of U.S. Infantry Division 9 at **Bluh Due** (April 15), of the U.S. Army in South Viet Nam at **Long Binh** (April 15) and 7 military sector CPs...

SAIGONESE MILITATE FOR BUDDHIST SUPERIOR THICH THIEN MINH's RELEASE

On the afternoon of April 5, many Buddhists, bonzes and intellectuals in Saigon said an office for Buddhist Superior Thich Thien Minh illegally detained by the Saigon administration, *Giai Phong* Press Agent in Saigon reported. After the ceremony, the attendance discussed actions for the Buddhist Superior's release by the Saigon triumvirate, restoration of peace and an end to the war.

They set up a "Committee of Action for the Cancellation of the Sentence on Buddhist Superior Thich Thien Minh" composed of some bonzes and professors.

Giai Phong Press Agency further reported that on March 29, the Buddhist Students' Association of the Colleges of Pharmacy, of Sciences, of Forestry, Agriculture and Veterinary, of Letters and the Saigon Buddhist Students' Union issued statements and sent protest letters

to the puppet administration urging instant freedom for Buddhist Superior Thich Thien Minh and eight students who were arrested at the same time as he, the return to the Buddhist Youth of their HQ and an end to all splitting and repressive manoeuvres against Buddhist believers.

The *Giai Phong* Press correspondent also wrote that the Viet Nam United Buddhist Mission (Saigon) had, in a special bulletin, scored the Saigon administration's repression of Buddhists and illegal imprisonment of Buddhist Superior Thich Thien Minh and the Buddhist students, and called on the Buddhists to close their ranks and uphold the Buddhist cause. "As the (puppet) administration deliberately tries to destroy Buddhism", the Organisation said, "the Buddhists must be ready to fight for its survival."

Book on South Viet Nam

THE IVORY COMB

(Collection of short stories by several South Vietnamese writers)

Second edition

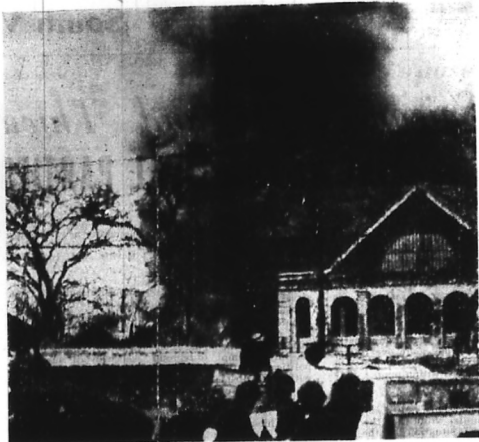
Graphic illustration of an evident truth: the South Vietnamese people have managed to fight back the American aggressors and the National Front for Liberation will surely win.

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After the PLAF artillery attack on the night of April 10: 2 enemy ammunition depots at Tay Ninh burnt out for 12 hours burning